

## § 2.27

(e) Appeals under this section may be based upon the following grounds:

(1) That the guidelines were incorrectly applied as to any or all of the following:

- (i) Severity rating;
- (ii) Salient factor score;
- (iii) Time in custody;

(2) That a decision outside the guidelines was not supported by the reasons or facts as stated;

(3) That especially mitigating circumstances (for example, facts relating to the severity of the offense or the prisoner's probability of success on parole) justify a different decision;

(4) That a decision was based on erroneous information, and the actual facts justify a different decision;

(5) That the Commission did not follow correct procedure in deciding the case, and a different decision would have resulted if the error had not occurred;

(6) There was significant information in existence but not known at the time of the hearing;

(7) There are compelling reasons why a more lenient decision should be rendered on grounds of compassion.

(f) Upon the written request of the Attorney General seeking review of a decision of a Regional Commissioner, which is received within 30 days of such decision, the National Appeals Board shall reaffirm, modify, or reverse the Regional Commissioner's decision within 60 days of receipt of the Attorney General's request. The National Appeals Board shall inform the Attorney General and the prisoner to whom the decision applies in writing of its decision and the reasons therefor. In the event the Attorney General submits new and significant information that has not previously been disclosed to the prisoner prior to a hearing under these rules, the National Appeals Board shall act within 60 days to reaffirm, modify or reverse the Regional Commissioner's decision, but shall also remand the case for a new hearing if its decision is adverse to the prisoner. The prisoner shall have disclosure of the new information, and the opportunity to dispute that information under § 2.19(c) of this part. Following the hearing, the case shall be returned to the National Appeals Board, together

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with a recommendation from the hearing examiner, to render a final Commission decision as to the disposition of the case.

[49 FR 44098, Nov. 2, 1984, as amended at 51 FR 32785, Sept. 16, 1986; 59 FR 40258, Aug. 8, 1994; 61 FR 55743, Oct. 29, 1996]

### § 2.27 Petition for reconsideration of original jurisdiction decisions.

(a) A petition for reconsideration may be filed with the Commission in cases decided under the procedure specified in § 2.17 within thirty days of the date of such decision. A form is provided for this purpose. A petition for reconsideration will be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission provided the petition is received thirty days in advance of such meeting. Petitions received by the Commission less than thirty days in advance of a regularly scheduled meeting will be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The concurrence of two Commissioners shall be required to modify or reverse the decision for which reconsideration is sought. If such concurrence is not obtained, the previous decision shall stand. A decision under this rule shall be final.

(b) Attorneys, relatives, and other interested parties who wish to submit written information concerning a petition for reconsideration should send such information to the National Appeals Board, United States Parole Commission, 5550 Friendship Boulevard, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815. Petitions and all supporting material are to be submitted thirty days in advance of the meeting at which such petitions will be considered.

(c) If no petition for reconsideration is filed within 30 days of the entry of a decision under § 2.17, that decision shall stand as the final decision of the Commission.

[61 FR 13763, Mar. 28, 1996, as amended at 61 FR 55743, Oct. 29, 1996]

### § 2.28 Reopening of cases.

(a) *Favorable information.* Notwithstanding the appeal procedures of § 2.26, the appropriate Regional Commissioner may, on his own motion, reopen a case at any time upon the receipt of

new information of substantial significance favorable to the prisoner. The Regional Commissioner may then order a new institutional hearing on the next docket, or reverse or modify the decision. The following actions require the concurrence of two out of three Commissioners:

(1) Any modification resulting in a reduction of more than 180 days (other than a modification that brings a decision from above the appropriate guideline range closer to, or to, the nearer limit of the appropriate guideline range);

(2) Any modification resulting in a decision below the appropriate guideline range;

(3) Reversal of a decision (i.e., any modification of a fifteen-year reconsideration hearing decision to a presumptive or effective parole date). Decisions requiring a second or additional vote shall be referred to the National Commissioners under the procedures of 28 CFR 2.24(a). Original jurisdiction cases may be reopened upon the motion of the appropriate Regional Commissioner under the procedures of § 2.17.

(b) *Institutional misconduct.* Consideration of disciplinary infractions and allegations of new criminal conduct occurring after the setting of a parole date are subject to the provisions of § 2.14 (in the case of a prisoner with a presumptive date) and § 2.34 (in the case of a prisoner with an effective date of parole).

(c) *Additional sentences.* If a prisoner receives an additional concurrent or consecutive federal sentence following his initial parole consideration, the Regional Commissioner shall reopen his case for a new initial hearing on the next regularly scheduled docket to consider the additional sentence and re-evaluate the case. Such action shall void the previous presumptive or effective release date. However, a new initial hearing is not mandatory where the Commission has previously evaluated the new criminal behavior, which led to the additional federal sentence, at a rescission hearing under 28 CFR 2.34; except where the new sentence extends the mandatory release date for a prisoner previously continued to the expiration of his sentence.

(d) *Conviction after revocation.* Upon receipt of information subsequent to the revocation hearing that a prisoner whose parole has been revoked has sustained a new conviction for conduct while on parole, the Regional Commissioner may reopen the case pursuant to § 2.52(c)(2) for a special reconsideration hearing on the next regularly scheduled docket to consider forfeiture of time spent on parole and such further action as may be appropriate. The entry of a new order shall void any presumptive or effective release date previously established.

(e) *Release planning.* When an effective date of parole has been set by the Commission, release on that date shall be conditioned upon the completion of a satisfactory plan for parole supervision. The appropriate Regional Commissioner may on his own motion reconsider any case prior to release and may reopen and advance or retard an effective parole date for purposes of release planning. Retardation without a hearing may not exceed 120 days.

(f) *New adverse information.* Upon receipt of new and significant adverse information that is not covered by paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section, a Commissioner may refer the case to the National Commissioners with his recommendation and vote to schedule the case for a special reconsideration hearing. Such referral shall automatically retard the prisoner's scheduled release date until a final decision is reached in the case. The decision to schedule a case for a special reconsideration hearing shall be based on the concurrence of two Commissioner votes, including the vote of the referring Commissioner. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in §§ 2.12 and 2.13. The entry of a new order following such hearing shall void the previously established release date.

[44 FR 3406, Jan. 16, 1979, as amended at 46 FR 36138, July 14, 1981; 49 FR 44098, Nov. 2, 1984; 61 FR 55743, Oct. 29, 1996]

#### § 2.29 Release on parole.

(a) A grant of parole shall not be deemed to be operative until a certificate of parole has been delivered to the prisoner.